GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:174
ANSWERED ON:13.08.2007
BIO-DIESEL FROM JATROPHA
Chakrabortty Shri Swadesh

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Jatropha can be easily converted into biodegradable diesel and its plantation can help reverse soil deterioration; and

(b) if so, the steps taken for development of Jatropha Cultivation in bad soils and drought conditions?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a) & (b): The implementation of Central Sector Scheme on Integrated Development of Tree Borne Oilseeds has been initiated by Government of India to promote cultivation of Tree Borne Oilseeds (TBOs) including Jatropha which has rich oil content and capacity to check soil deterioration. The oil of Jatropha can be converted into bio-degradable diesel after trans- esterification.

NOVOD Board has undertaken plantation of Jatropha over 10,185 ha. especially in degraded areas in 21 states in the country.